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SECURITY INFORMATION

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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT 1. Burgas City Prison
1 2. Border Guards in the Zlatograd Area

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Burgas City Prison¹

1. The Burgas city prison is located on Georgi Dimitrov Street, approximately two kilometers from the center of town. The prison consists of a three-story building in the form of a T and is divided into three departments, as follows:
 - a. Criminals;
 - b. Black market operators; and
 - c. Political prisoners and kulaks.
2. The prison is surrounded by a stone wall more than four meters high and 40 centimeters thick. The inside of the prison is entirely whitewashed and all outside walls are painted with yellow oil paint.
3. The cells are generally two-and-one-half meters wide, three meters long, and three meters high. There are no beds and prisoners sleep on straw mats.
4. Although the prison is equipped with steam heat facilities, no heat is allowed in the prisoners' quarters. Food is extremely poor and the prisoners are fed twice daily, almost invariably with a spinach and cabbage soup and a daily bread ration of 420 grams. Prisoners supplement their prison food diet with food parcels from home. Food parcels are frequently withheld as punishment.
5. Since 1949, mail restrictions have become more and more severe. Mail allowances now are:

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- a. One letter every three months for prisoners with sentences up to 10 years; and
 - b. One letter every six months for prisoners with sentences greater than 10 years.
6. Prisoners who have no demerits are allowed a 35-45 minute exercise twice daily in the prison courtyard.
 7. The prison has a library where prisoners in good standing may borrow books. There is a membership tax of 100 levas per month for each prisoner for library privileges. The prison also operates a store which sells cigarettes, writing paper, stamps, fruit, cheese, and marmalade; these items are sold at a much higher price than in the stores outside.
 8. Each prisoner is allowed visitors on the same schedule as listed in paragraph 5 above for letters.
 9. On 11 May 1949, the most important internees at the Burgas prison were:
 - a. Strati Dimitrov, candidate for election to the National Assembly, member of the Nikola Petkov faction, serving a one-year sentence;
 - b. Manol Zografov, candidate for election to the National Assembly, member of the Nikola Petkov faction, sentenced to 12 years for espionage;
 - c. Denyu Denovski, candidate for election to the National Assembly, member of the Nikola Petkov faction, sentenced to 18 months for attempted escape to Turkey;
 - d. Georgi Krustev, member of the National Assembly from the Nikola Petkov group, sentenced to five years for illegal possession of arms and attempted escape to Turkey;
 - e. Mityu Genov, sentenced to three years for aiding escapees to Turkey;
 - f. Kircho Kostadinov, personal secretary to Minister Surbinski, sentenced to 18 months for attempted escape;
 - g. Colonel Stanishev, former commander of 24 Infantry Regiment, sentenced to life imprisonment;
 - h. Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Kanev, former commander of the border sector in Malko Turnovo, sentenced to 15 years;
 - i. Nikolai Popov, aided in the escape of G. M. Dimitrov, sentenced to one year for attempted escape to Greece;
 - j. Marko Markov Topalov, sentenced to 12½ years for espionage;
 - k. Zhelyu Pivchev, sentenced to life; he escaped to Turkey, but returned to lead underground activities and was wounded and captured during a skirmish in 1948; his colleague, Todor Usinov, was killed in the engagement;
 - l. Zhelesko Pehlivanov, sentenced to 10 years for hiding his nephew, Stamat Pehlivanov;

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m. Stamat Pehlivanov, nephew of Zhelesko Pehlivanov, who escaped to Greece, was returned and sentenced to 12½ years for espionage; and

n. Yanko Tokmakov, sentenced to eight years for participation in the Pivchev group.

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Border Guards in the Zlatograd Area

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10. A military unit of 100-120 men, believed to be a border komandatura, is located on the western edge of Zlatograd. [REDACTED]

11. A border zastava of approximately 30 soldiers is located southwest of Krushev Dol. Lieutenant Racho Rachev is the zastava commander. [REDACTED]

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12. The cap worn by Border Guard officers has a crown and sides of bright green felt with a dark green band. The cap has a Soviet-type straight black bill. In the center of the band in front is an elliptical-shaped cockade which has laurel wreaths on each side; the background between the wreaths is filled in with the Bulgarian tricolors over which is a five-pointed red star. There is a black leather strap immediately above the bill.

13. The blouse worn by Border Guard officers is made of olive green cloth with four inside pockets which have outside flaps. The blouse is buttoned with five buttons in front. The epaulets are stiff boards covered with gold cloth and the center line or lines of green piping. The edges of the epaulet also have green piping. The ordinary Army ranks are carried on these epaulets. On both sides of the collar in front are bright green tabs with one metallic stripe for junior officers (company grade officers) and two stripes for senior officers (field grade officers).

14. Trousers worn by Border Guard officers are riding breeches made of the same material as the blouse and have green piping down the sides. The trousers are tucked into spurred black leather riding boots.

15. The overcoat worn by Border Guard officers is made of a gray-blue cloth and styled along the lines of the old Bulgarian Army greatcoats, with two rows of buttons. The same type of epaulets are worn on the overcoat as on the blouse.

1. [REDACTED] Comment: Appendices A, B, C, and D, shown on the next four pages, are sketches of the Burgas city prison cellar, first floor, second floor, and third floor respectively. [REDACTED]

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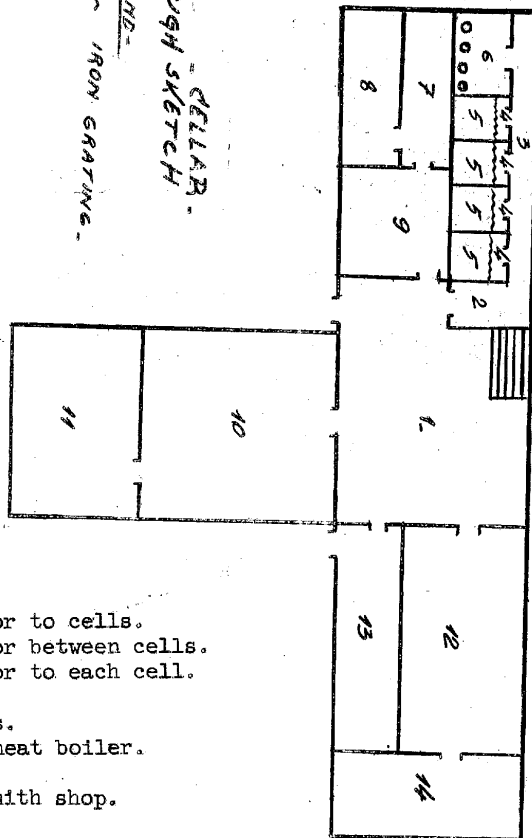
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- CELLAR -
- ROUGH SKETCH -
LEGEND -
IRON GRATING -



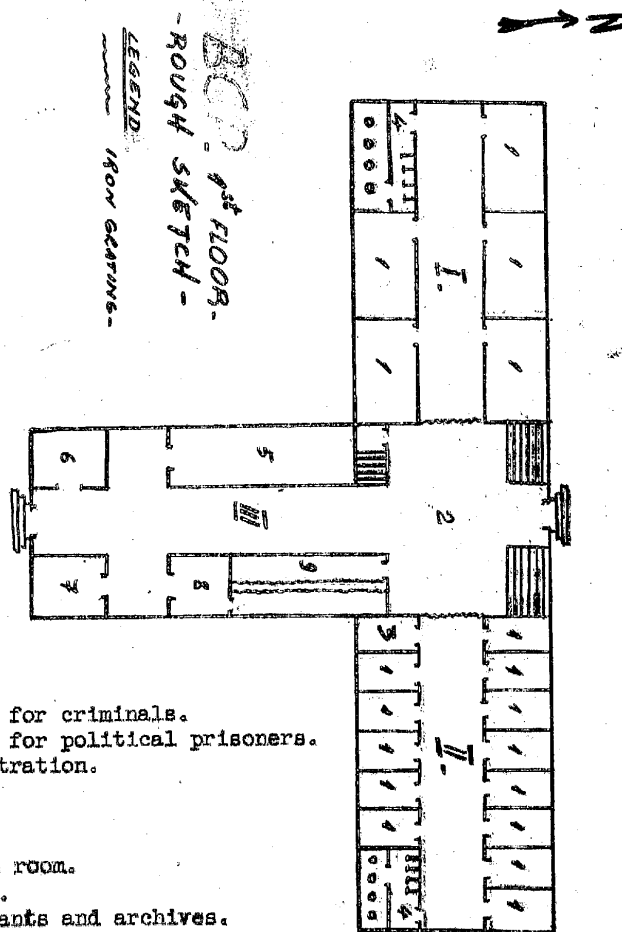
1. Square.
2. Corridor to cells.
3. Corridor between cells.
4. Corridor to each cell.
5. Cells.
6. Toilets.
7. Steam heat boiler.
8. Coal.
9. Blacksmith shop.
10. Bath.
11. Dressing room.
12. Mess hall.
13. Kitchen.
14. Shoe shop.

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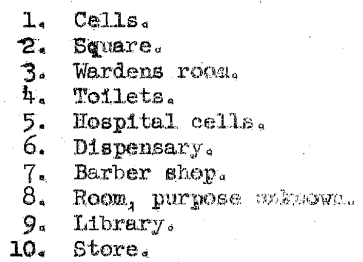


- I Section for criminals.
- II Section for political prisoners.
- III Administration.

- 1. Cells.
- 2. Square.
- 3. Warden's room.
- 4. Toilets.
- 5. Accountants and archives.
- 6. Room, purpose unknown.
- 7. Chief warden.
- 8. Political chief.
- 9. Visitors' room.

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and \mathcal{C}_2 are

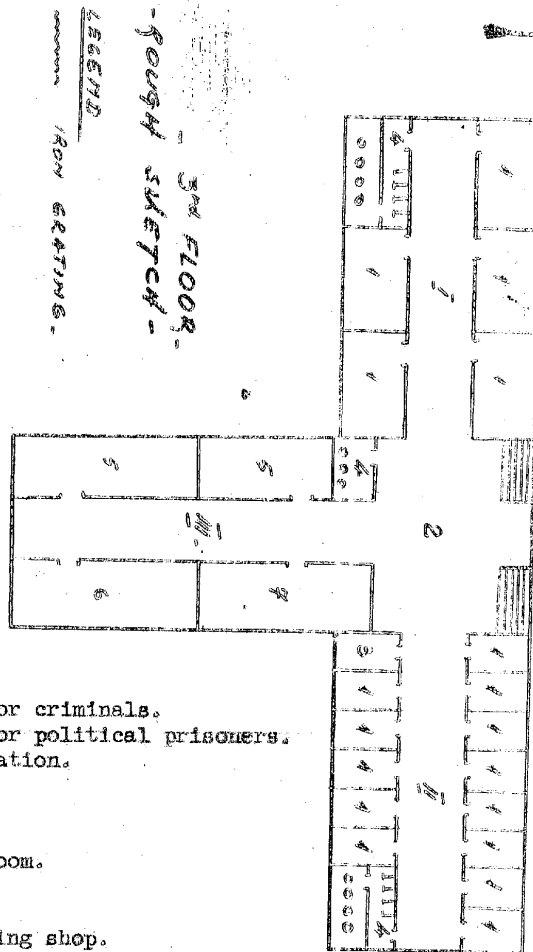


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